

MEDIA ADVISORY

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

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ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER, BLACK AND LATINO CAUCUSES HOST PUBLIC FORUM ON GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Long Beach, CA-The California Legislative Tri-Caucus, comprised of the Asian Pacific Islander, Black and Latino Legislative Caucuses will host a town hall meeting to discuss Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed budget cuts on higher education at California State University at Long Beach.

"The Governor proposes reductions in student financial aid and significant increases in student fees. His proposal turns away thousands of qualified students from the University of California, California State University and California Community Colleges and eliminates state funding for programs designed to prepare low-income, underserved students for college," said Assembly Member Marco A. Firebaugh, Chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus. "The tremendous impact of these radical changes to our higher education system demands public input and scrutiny."

"If the Governor's proposed cuts are enacted, it will be the first time in 44 years that the State has failed to provide access to higher education for high school students who have worked hard and earned their entry to the UC or CSU system," said Assembly Member Judy Chu, Chair of the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus. "Our parents worked hard to make a college education available to our generation; we will keep our promise to those that come after us."

"California's state university and college systems were built with the promise that the door would be open for all qualified students," said Senator Kevin Murray, Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus. "All California students deserve equal and quality education, and we must find a way to keep the doors open to make good on the promise we made to them."

What: Town Hall Meeting re: Governor's Budget Cuts on Higher Education

When: Friday, June 18, 2004
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Cal State Long Beach Pyramid
1250 Bellflower Boulevard
Long Beach, California

Who: Hon. Marco A. Firebaugh, Chair, Latino Legislative Caucus
Hon. Judy Chu, Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus
Hon. Kevin Murray, Chair, Legislative Black Caucus
Members of the Legislature

Background: In addition to Members of the Legislature, students, parent, higher education leaders and experts will be participating in the town hall meeting. This hearing is part of a statewide effort to involve and inform local communities on the impact of the Governor's proposed budget cuts on higher education. To date, similar hearings have taken place in Berkeley and Riverside.

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California Asian
Pacific Islander
Legislative
Caucus

California Latino
Legislative
Caucus

California
Legislative
Black Caucus